Michael A. Denling
315 Jefferson Ave.
Linwood, NJ 08221

6-23-95

Dear Mr. Tettenhorst,

Please find enclosed a check for 8000 payment for 95 C2b. It's found a home and fits into my set nicely.

Also enclosed is a proof of 1808/7 with Die Break.

I'm still interested in making a deal for your extra 97 C3c.

Again thanks for the 95.

Hope to see you at ANA.

Mike

R. TETTENHORST
P. O. Box 14020
Saint Louis, Missouri 63178

August 28, 1995

Mr. Mike Demling
315 Jefferson Avenue
Linwood, NJ 08221

Dear Mike:

At the ANA you asked me two questions, which I will attempt to answer.

At the Roger Cohen sale, my working copy of the catalogue indicates that I had a limit of $25,000 on the 1794 5B and $32,000 on the 6B. Actually, my memory is that I had the intention, if I purchased the 5B for less than the $25,000, to spend the balance of the $57,000 on the unique 6B to complete my variety and subvariety set. I fully expected the 6B to go for a substantially higher price than the 5B. Naturally, I was pleased to be able to buy them at $16,000 apiece.

Actually, I cannot say for certain that I would not have decided to go beyond $57,000 for the pair if I had succeeded in buying the 5B for $25,000 or less. There were a number of other coins later in the auction that I wanted as die states, etc. (I bought about seventy coins in the sale), but I might well have been willing to forego buying many of them in order to take advantage of the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to complete the series.

As to 1794 half cents without edge lettering, I find that I have three of them. They are as follows:

1) C9. Very good. $1,575. Obtained from Julian Leidman October 30, 1987.

2) C1. About good. $900. Obtained from Bill Weber February 19, 1992.

3) C2. About good. $330 (against bid of $990!). Obtained in the Bowers & Merena Witham & Sansoucy Auction (copy attached), September 14, 1992, Lot 1. Glad you weren't bidding in this sale!

You can see why I put down a $900 bid for the coin in Chris' auction. I certainly hope you obtained it for less than your maximum. As you can see, we now have a combined total of four varieties of 1794 without edge lettering. If we keep looking, perhaps some day we can complete a combined variety set of that date. It certainly gives us soemthing to ask for when people pester us for our Want Lists!

I hope this information is helpful to you. Let me know if there is anything else you would like.

Sincerely,

Tett

R. Tettenhorst

mb
Enclosure

Session One

Monday Morning, September 14, 10:00 AM Sharp
Colonial and U.S. Coins: Lots 1-1000

Half Cents

Copper half cents, those "little half sisters" of numismatic lore, made their first appearance in 1793 along with the large cent issues of that year. Once an issue with at least some buying power, the half cent finally faded from the American numismatic scene in 1857. During the years 1793 to 1857 there were many gaps in the coinage of this series. A noticeable gap in business strike half cent coinage occurred during the years 1812 to 1824, when no half cents were minted for general circulation. The decade of the 1840s saw Proof-only half cent coinage until 1849. Other gaps of a year or two occurred throughout the series.

We are very pleased to offer a specialized collection of half cents, one that includes rare and desirable issues as well as off-center pieces, multiple strikings, and a selection of coins with edge clips. Scarce and interesting die states and varieties are also included. We know the half cent enthusiast will appreciate the following selection of coins, and we are certain that there will be great interest out on the auction floor when certain pieces cross the block.

1 **1794 Breen-2. Normal Head, Closest Date. Extremely rare variety. Without edge lettering on planchet. Overall sharpness of G-5,** with some planchet porosity seen, particularly on the reverse. A few scattered surface marks and tiny edge bruises are also noted. Careful examination of the edge under low magnification reveals absolutely **no traces of the edge lettering style generally associated with the half cents of 1794.** Actually, not bad for the assigned grade, and a coin that warrants a good look from the interested bidder.

It is unknown how many 1794 half cents exist without edge lettering, but no doubt they are extremely rare, this being the first example known to this cataloguer. While one hesitates to call any numismatic item unique, this rare and interesting coin is certainly in the running for that title.

MICHAEL
DEMLING
315 Jefferson Ave. Linwood, N.J. 08221

12/14/95

M/r Tettenhorst,

Sending you a couple of half Cents you may be interested in. The 1808/7 die states are different than the ones in Rogers sale.

What I would like to propose is a possible trade/deal for your extra 1797 gripped edge.

Why don't you think about it for a while and I'll get together with you at the FUN show.

Wishing you a Happy Holiday.

Mike

R. TETTENHORST
P. O. Box 14020
Saint Louis, Missouri 63178

Feb 1, 1996

Dear Mike,

Sorry I wasn't able to go to the Fun Show, but I'm confident we will have time to chat at EAC.

Thank you for sending me these 1808/7's. They are not dramatically different from ones that I have. In general, I have not collected minor variations in die state. Now if you should get one with the complete final state of the cud, that would be different. I do have one with the second cud at BE.

Hope you are continuing to add to your already fine collection.

Tett

R. TETTENHORST
P. O. Box 14020
Saint Louis, Missouri 63178

May 29, 1996

VIA REGISTERED MAIL

Mr. Bill Weber
P. O. Box 204
Fulton, CA 95439

Dear Bill:

Enclosed is the 1795 C2a that we discussed. I don't know how it should be priced. CQR lists the condition census as two 60-coins and two 50-coins. This is probably an incomplete listing. I believe this coin is one of those listed as a 60-coin. I don't think it is quite at that level, and you certainly won't either.

I have noted that CQR prices tend to be low for coins which are well up in the condition census. He lists the price for a 50-coin as $7,000. The Eliasberg coin, slightly better than this, cost me $15,950. I am planning to ask $14,000 for this one from a few of "the usual suspects." If you want it for $12,000, it's yours. Please keep as a purely personal confidence the fact that I offered it to you for $12,000. Any brushing, etc., that you feel would be useful to the coin's appearance would be much appreciated.

Sincerely,

R. Tettenhorst

mb

Enclosure

BW sent to Mike Deming -- MD sent it back to R.T. 6-18

MICHAEL
DEMLING
315 Jefferson Ave. Linwood, N.J. 08221

6-12-94

Hi Ted,

Thank you for the opertunity of viewing your 95 c2a. Very nice coin but just not for me at this time.

Ted I want to thank you again for the wonderful time I had at the reception you invited me to at the E.A.C. It's truly a pleasure to be associated with you.

Thanks Ted

Mike

R. TETTENHORST
500 WASHINGTON AVENUE
SUITE 1234
ST. LOUIS, MO 63101

April 23, 2001

Mr. Mike Demling
315 Jefferson Avenue
Linwood, NJ 08221

Dear Mike:

This is the letter you asked me to write concerning the comparison we made at EAC 2001 of your newly purchased 1797 Cohen 3c gripped edge with my two specimens of that same variety. The edge markings of my two specimens line up with each other in at least 90 percent of the instances, both as to location and shape. The location and shape of these marks are irregular.

Placing your specimen between my two and comparing the edge markings of all three revealed that your specimen also conforms in location and shape of the gripping marks in at least 90 percent of the cases. This leads me to the firm conclusion that yours is a genuine specimen of variety 97 3c.

I congratulate you on its acquisition, because I know you have searched for one for a long time.

Sincerely,

R. Tettenhorst

R. Tettenhorst

mb